



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HEADQUARTERS
NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE
716 SICARD STREET SE SUITE 2000
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20388-5380

5720 F01-0006B
SEROOJF/2U0224

MAR 7 2002

Mr. Ernie Lazar
P.O. Box 423434
San Francisco, CA 94142-3434

Robert A. Winston

Dear Mr. Lazar:

This further responds to your Freedom of Information Act request for information pertaining to Robert A. Winston.

As stated in our June 14, 2001 letter to you we referred documents to another agency for review. We are now in receipt of that response.

Additional Navy originated information is provided at enclosure (1), along with an explanation of the exemptions taken under to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C).

As the official responsible for the partial denial of your request, I am advising you of your right to appeal this determination. Your appeal must be postmarked within 60 calendar days from the date of this letter. An appeal should be addressed to the Secretary of the Navy's designee: Office of the Judge Advocate General, (Code 14), 1322 Patterson Avenue, S.E., Suite 300, Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5066. The envelope and letter should bear the annotation "FOIA Appeal."

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), has taken exemptions pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C). In addition, portions of the withheld information concern CIA functions and information. Withholding this information is authorized by both statute and regulation, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3); 50 USC §403(g) Section 6 of the CIA Act of 1949.

Falling below the automatic fee-waiver threshold, fees in this case have been waived.

Sincerely,

Z S Kugeares

ZOE S. KUGEARES
LT JAGC, USNR
Staff Attorney

Encl:
(1) Documents

Copy to:
FBI FOI/PA #901826-1

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (5 U.S.C. §552):

(b)(1) protects from disclosure national security information concerning the national defense or foreign policy;

(b)(2) related solely to internal personnel rules and practices, the release of which would allow circumvention of a statute or rule;

(b)(3) specifically exempt from disclosure by statute;

(b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a private source which would cause substantial competitive harm to the source;

(b)(5) pre-decisional opinions and recommendations, inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters that show foreseeable harm if released. Also, attorney-client privilege and attorney-work product are covered;

(b)(6) personnel and medical information, the release of which would result in a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(b)(7) investigatory records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, which (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source, (E) would disclose investigative techniques, and/or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual.

PRIVACY ACT (5 U.S.C. §552a):

(b) applies to information concerning other individuals which may not be released without their written consent;

(j)(2) (A) applies to information compiled for the purpose of identifying individual criminal offenders and alleged offenders and consisting only of identifying data, (B) information compiled for the purpose of a criminal investigation, including reports of informants and investigators, and associated with an identifiable individual, or (C) reports identifiable to an individual compiled at any stage of the process of enforcement of the criminal laws;

(k)(1) applies to information and material properly classified pursuant to an Executive Order in the interest of national defense or foreign policy;

(k)(5) applies to investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment, or access to classified information, release of which would disclose a confidential source; and

(k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service, the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process.

UNCLASSIFIED~~CONFIDENTIAL~~**SUBJECT: WINSTON, Robert Alexander****Predication:**

This investigation is predicated upon a request from Administrative Office, Navy Dept., of 1/10/55, requesting that Subject be given a Background Investigation inasmuch as his position requires access to TOP SECRET material.

DETAILS:AT WASHINGTON, D.C.
 CIA
 (b)(3)
 (b)(7)(c)

Subject claims birth 10/25/07, Washington, Ind., (per SPH); employed since 1/3/55 in the Immediate Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (personnel and Reserve Forces), presently a GS-16 in a position requiring access to TOP SECRET material.

[REDACTED] On 12/27/54 Honorable Albert PRATT, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Personnel and Reserve Forces) was provided with the following information concerning Subject [REDACTED]

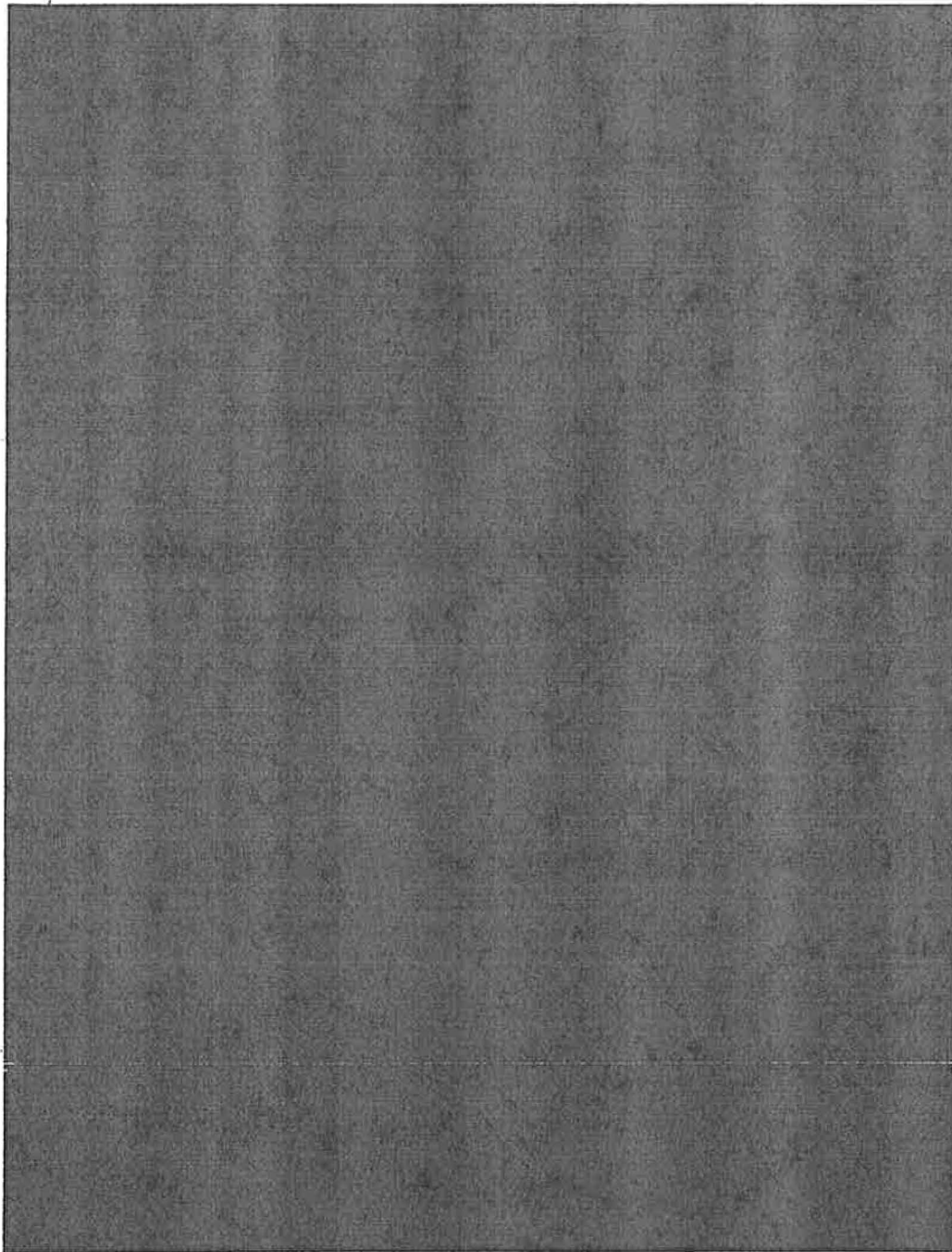
[REDACTED] Personnel records as maintained by SAOS (Subject's present employer) contain a letter, dated 1/27/55, [REDACTED] to Administrative Office, Personnel Branch, Navy Dept., stating that Subject accepted an appointment [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: ~~WINSTON~~, Robert Alexander *112*

DETAILS: (Cont'd)



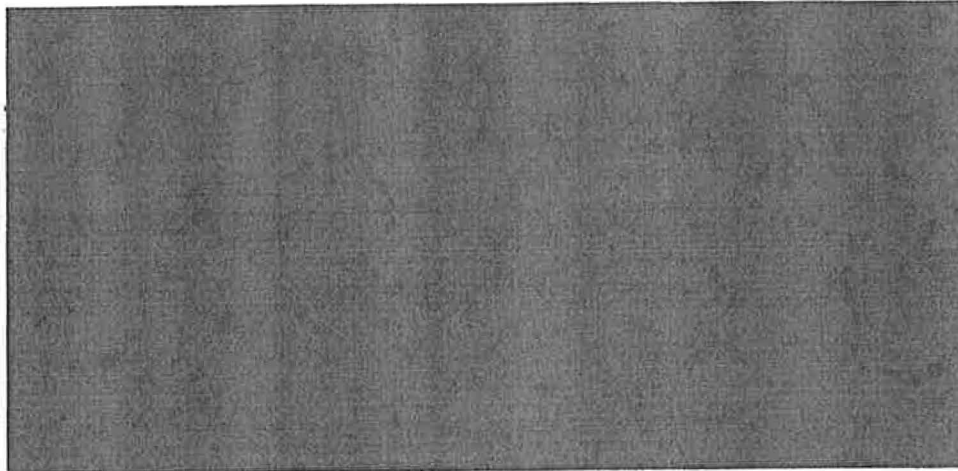
CIA
(b)(3)
(b)(7)(C)

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SUBJECT: WINSTON, Robert Alexander

DETAILS: (Cont'd)

CIA
(b)(3)
(b)(7)(C)

Mr. Lewis S. THOMPSON, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Mutual Security Assistance Affairs, stated that he first became acquainted with Subject in 1950 [REDACTED]

CIA
(b)(3), (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED] Reference described Subject as a man of integrity, very bright, a hard worker, quite optimistic, of good judgment, and a person of extremely positive views. Subject's capabilities would suit his present work with the Navy. Informant would consider Subject reliable and dependable. Informant pointed out that in some respects Subject was not flexible - minded which might tend to make for minor difficulties in business relations, for in the opinion of informant over-optimism may be self - delusion. Subject definitely a "bird-dog" type of individual. Informant stated that he visited Subject's home on a number of occasions but not well-acquainted with Subject on a social basis. Subject has an extremely attractive wife and very fine children. To the best of Informant's knowledge, Subject is not a joiner; is an author of noted as he wrote a book on spear-fishing; aware that Subject has a long record of Naval service. As to Subject's loyalty, informant stated that it was above question; regarded Subject as one of the most rabid anti-communists. [REDACTED]

CIA
(b)(3), (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED] Subject became associated with the Eisenhower for President Research Service for the approximate period of time as Subject stated on PHS. This organization had its headquarters in the Cafritz Bldg., Washington, D.C., in the offices of L. Corrin STRONG

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DETAILS: (Cont'd)

(presently ambassador to Denmark), and, according to informant, the organization was under the direction of Dr. Paul LINEBARGER, Professor at the School of Advanced Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Washington, D.C., and General SOLBERT. Informant stated that he was associated with Subject in the above organization. Following the above employment, Subject accepted a position with Research Associates, Inc., Washington, D.C., which was under the direction of informant. According to informant, this organization developed research plans; it is still in existence and legally active, but at present the organization is considered dormant. Informant stated that during his association with Subject he was aware of nothing which could be construed as derogatory concerning Subject. Informant wouldn't hesitate to recommend Subject for a position of trust with the Navy.

_____ stated that he has known Subject since 1944 _____

Informant's association with Subject has been on both an official and a social basis; regards Subject as of unquestioned character and integrity. Subject is an author having written very good books on "Air warfare" and "skin diving"; Subject is an excellent swimmer. According to informant, Subject is very able person and his work _____ was considered satisfactory and efficient. Subject is occasionally hot-tempered but this is not to be held against him as Subject is a very fine man. Informant has met Subject's wife who is quite a nice person; understands that Subject has several brothers and sisters and that Subject is the youngest member of a large family. Subject was a fine pilot during World War II. There is no question as to Subject's loyalty. Informant aware of nothing which would reflect detrimentally on Subject and would definitely employ Subject again. Informant would recommend Subject very strongly for a position of trust with the Navy. Informant further added that he (informant) has been out of the country for the past few years.

Past employment by Eisenhower for President Research Service, Cafritz Bldg., 1625 I St., N.W., Washington, D.C. (7/15/52-11/15/52) verified satisfactory by Mr. Lewis S. THOMPSON who has been previously referred to in this report. Mr. THOMPSON was associated with Subject in the above organization.

Past employment by Research Associates, Inc., 1834 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. (12/1/52-12/31/54) verified satisfactory by Mr. Lewis S. THOMPSON who has been previously referred to in this report. Mr. THOMPSON was the director of this organization and served as Subject's supervisor. Offices of the organization are no longer maintained at the above address. As previously noted organization is now dormant.

Present employment by Immediate Office of the Assistant Secretary

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SUBJECT: WINSTON, Robert Alexander

DETAILS: (Cont'd)

of the Navy, EXOS, Navy Dept., Washington, D.C. (1/3/55-present) verified satisfactory by personnel records as maintained by EXOS. Records reflect that Subject received an excepted appointment on 1/3/55 as a Consultant at \$46.16 per day in the Immediate Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (personnel and Reserve Forces), Executive Office of the Secretary, Navy Dept., Washington, D.C. The appointment designated to extend from 1/3/55 to 2/2/55, and Subject was to be a full time employee. Subject was under a Personal Service Contract for the above period. Subject's position was certified by CSC on 1/14/55, and the contract was terminated on 2/2/55. On 2/3/55 Subject received an excepted appointment (conditional) as Assistant for Moral and Welfare Matters, OS-16 (\$12,000), in the same office as above. Records reflect that Subject credited with "substantially continuous creditable service" as of 2/3/55. An NAC was completed on Subject on 1/28/55, and records reflect no derogatory data in FBI files of 1/27/55. It is to be further noted that Subject has four children, two sisters, and one brother. The information concerning Subject's employment [redacted] CIA (b)(3), (b)(7)(C) as contained in EXOS personnel records has been previously referred in this report. There is nothing of a derogatory nature contained in EXOS personnel records concerning Subject.

Past residence Rt. #1, Vienna, Va. (1941-1942) verified. This address is presently Rt. [redacted]

[redacted] stated that he would verify Subject's residence at the above address. Informant was not personally acquainted with Subject but had met Subject's family. Subject and family possessed a good name and reputation in the community, and informant further stated that to the best of his knowledge he could recall nothing of a derogatory nature concerning Subject or family. [redacted]

and [redacted] both of [redacted] stated that Subject lived at the above address in a [redacted] home for about a two year period. Subject resided there with his wife and two children and at the time was in the Navy. Informants did not know Subject but were acquainted with Subject's wife, a very nice person. Informants further stated that everyone liked Subject and his family and that they had never heard anything which might reflect derogatorily on Subject or his family.

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Past residence [redacted] (1950) verified. The foregoing address was reflected in a credit check of Subject on 1/25/55. It is to be noted that this address has been changed to [redacted], [redacted] stated that Subject rented the house at the above address for approximately a year about 1950. Subject at the time was a commander

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~**SUBJECT: WINSTON, Robert Alexander****DETAILS: (Cont'd)**

in the Navy and resided at this address with his wife and children. Informant's contacts with Subject and family were chiefly on a neighborly basis, and to the best of knowledge informant never visited in the home of Subject. Subject was always of a pleasant nature and a likeable person; Subject's family appeared to be a happy one. Subject did employ a maid in his home. Informant stated that Subject's wife was foreign-born. Informant never saw or heard anything of a derogatory nature concerning Subject or family. On the basis of this acquaintanceship with Subject, informant advised that she knew of no reason not to recommend Subject for a position of trust. No present residents of the neighborhood would be acquainted with Subject.

Past residence [REDACTED]. (1950-52)

verified. [REDACTED], stated Subject lived with his wife and children at the above address from approximately July or August of 1950 to September of 1952. Informant had neighborly and social contacts with Subject and family during this period of time and considered herself (informant) a good friend of Subject and family. Subject had four children at the time, and Subject and family had a large number of friends who quite often visited in Subject's home. Informant described Subject as a man of good character, a sincere person, very interested in his family, and reliable in nature. Subject expressed a fondness for hunting and swimming. Informant stated that she was never aware of anything of a derogatory nature in respect to bad habits on the part of Subject and always considered Subject a loyal citizen. Informant met a sister of Subject at one time and further stated that Subject was a pilot during the last war. It was during this period of time that Subject's wife was residing in McLean, Va. Informant would recommend Subject for a position of trust with the Navy. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], stated that she could verify Subject's residence at the above address for the approximate period of time as stated. Subject was living with his wife and four children; informant was better acquainted with Subject's wife and knew latter chiefly on a neighborly basis. Subject described as a charming person, nice looking, always pleasant, and particularly fatherly and congenial in his associations with his wife and children; would judge Subject to be a person of good character. Informant stated that she was aware of nothing of a derogatory nature whatsoever concerning Subject and further advised that there would be few people in the present neighborhood who would know Subject. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], stated that she knew Subject, his wife,

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SUBJECT: WINSTON, Robert Alexander

DETAILS: (Cont'd)

and children as neighbors when they resided at the above address. Subject and family were liked in the neighborhood and did possess a good name. Informant was aware of no derogatory information concerning Subject or family.

Past Residence [REDACTED] (1952-2/55) verified. Inquiry at the Post Office in McLean, Va., revealed that Subject did reside at the above address for period of time. Subject vacated this address on 2/26/55 and gave as a forwarding address - [REDACTED]

The foregoing information was provided by [REDACTED] Postal Clerk. [REDACTED], stated that he could verify residence of Subject at the above address. Informant's contacts with Subject were primarily on a casual, neighborly basis. Subject rented a house from a man by name of [REDACTED]. Informant stated that Subject seemed to be a devoted family man, definitely a responsible person in this respect, did much to help his family, and from all observations Subject appeared to be a man of good character. Subject's children were always very friendly, and Subject kept a good many animals at his home for the enjoyment of his children. Subject was away from home much of the time. Informant stated that he was not aware of the type of work in which Subject was engaged. Informant knew of nothing of a derogatory nature concerning Subject and advised that he knew of no reason not to recommend Subject for a position of trust.

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[REDACTED], an elderly couple, stated that Subject and family resided at the above address for over a two year period. The house in which Subject resided was formerly the home of informants. During the period of time in question Subject rented the house from [REDACTED]. Informants stated that Subject and family were the finest neighbors that they had ever known. Subject regarded as fine person, of good character, honest, sympathetic, cooperative, very friendly, always neighborly, agreeable, and straightforward. Subject and family were good church-goers. Subject has four children. Informants never questioned the loyalty of Subject or his family and were never aware of anything which would tend to reflect adversely on Subject; did recall of a minor disturbance between Subject's family and a neighbor family over children of the families. Subject was quite happy over the results of the last presidential election. Informants stated that they never knew a finer person than Subject and would recommend Subject to the limit.

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DETAILS: (Cont'd)

[REDACTED], an elderly couple, stated that they knew Subject and family during their period of residence at the above address chiefly on a neighborly basis. Subject and family described as good neighbors and good people who possessed a fine name in the neighborhood. Subject the type of person who would do anything for you, always very sociable and very cooperative. Informants knew of no bad habits on part of Subject and were of the opinion that Subject was a non-drinker. Subject and wife have two boys and two girls. Informants considered Subject an honest and loyal American and never heard anything against Subject; would recommend Subject to anyone.

[REDACTED], stated that he was acquainted with Subject and family during their period of residency at the above address; contacts with Subject were chiefly neighborly and on a friendly level. Informant advised that Subject always appeared to be "ok", possessed a good educational background, was in the Navy for a period of time, and has done some writing; Subject's wife is from Sweden. Subject always displayed a great interest in acquainting his children with nature. Informant stated that he was not acquainted with any group memberships, associations, or affiliations on the part of Subject. Subject judged to be a person of high moral and social standards. Informant stated that he knew of nothing in the slightest way which would reflect adversely on Subject and further advised that he would be surprised if Subject were not 100% American. Informant stated that on basis of his past acquaintanceship with Subject he would know of no reason why Subject could not be recommended for a position of trust.

NCIS
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[REDACTED] stated that she has met Subject and his wife. Subject did rent the house at the above address for about two years from informant's husband. Subject and family moved in February of 1955; they were satisfactory tenants. Informant knew of nothing derogatory concerning Subject or family.

Reference Senator Homer A. CAPEHART of the State of Indiana, stated that he has known Subject for many years, practically all of Subject's life. Subject is of a good, industrious family and is the type of person whose character and integrity one would rate as "excellent". Reference stated that he has never been associated with Subject in business or on an official basis. Subject has held positions of trust and responsibility in the past. Reference stated that he has never heard anything in the way of gossip or has never read anything which would

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SUBJECT: WINSTON, Robert Alexander

DETAILS: (Cont'd)

tend to reflect derogatorily on Subject; would not question the loyalty of Subject. Reference on basis of his knowledge of Subject over a period of years would recommend Subject for a position of trust.

Reference Charles A. HALLFICK, Representative from the State of Indiana, stated that he has known Subject for a number of years. Reference and Subject both attended the University of Indiana and were fraternity brothers while enrolled there; contacts with Subject in recent years have been on a casual basis. Reference stated that Subject is of a good family background, is of sound character, and is a good hardhitting, effective, and patriotic person. Subject is a dependable and a reliable type person; was active in the Eisenhower campaign for president. Reference stated that what he knows of Subject is on the plus side and would be very much surprised if Subject were not a loyal American. Reference would recommend Subject for a position of trust.

Files of ONI (3/4/55) and FBI (Subversive) (1/55) reflect that [redacted] was issued a quota immigration visa #20, at the American Consulate, Stockholm, Sweden, on 7/30/40. Several individuals traveling on the same vessel with [redacted] on her trip to the United States had seen her in the company of Germans and German sympathizers. An FBI investigation of Subject's wife, arising from the same allegations, was closed in August 1942. It is to be further noted that [redacted], the cousin of Subject's wife, had been investigated by the FBI as a suspected enemy agent, but no evidence had been developed, and case was closed in early 1944. The above information is contained in refs. (a) through (e) of this report. [redacted] NCIS b7C

Files of FBI (Criminal) (1/25/55), CSC (2/1/55), HCUA (1/25/55), and BuPers (2/1/55) contain no record on Subject. Files of Metro. P.D. (Crim and Subv 1/27/55, 1/25/55), Arlington, Va. Police Department (1/27/55), and Fairfax, Va. Police Department (1/28/55) contain no record on Subject. Files of local Credit Bureau nonderogatory on Subject. CIA (b)(3), (b)(7)(C)

Files of IC-PRNC negative on references and contain no information pertinent to this report other than that set forth herein. This investigation is cancelled by AO, Navy Dept., letter of 6/13/55 stating that Subject will resign present position as of 6/30/55.

END

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